

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 3 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

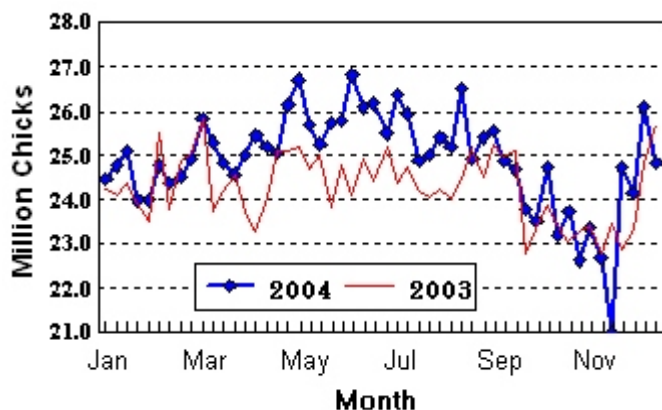
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 24.8 million during the week ending December 25, 2004. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week in 2003, and down 5 percent from the previous week, and included 2.3 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through December 25, 2004 were 1.30 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.6 million, up slightly from the corresponding week a year earlier, but down slightly from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.7 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.8 percent.

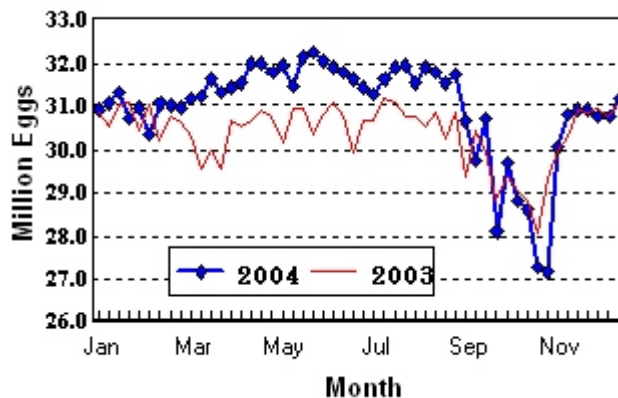
Arkansas hatcheries set 31.2 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending December 25, 2004, up slightly from the same period last year, and up 1 percent from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2003	2004	% Change	2003	2004	% Change	2003	2004	% Change
	<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>		
Nov. 20	22,777	22,691	100	23,123	22,636	98	30,312	30,824	102
Nov. 27	23,461	20,983	89	24,188	22,520	93	30,923	30,922	100
Dec. 4	22,866	24,740	108	24,832	24,837	100	30,882	30,902	100
Dec. 11	23,320	24,158	104	25,142	25,622	102	30,992	30,746	99
Dec. 18	24,804	26,068	105	25,552	25,593	100	30,777	30,766	100
Dec. 25	25,698	24,835	97	25,519	25,575	100	31,091	31,169	100

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2003-2004



EGGS SET, 2003 - 2004



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2004

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	04-Dec	11-Dec	18-Dec	25-Dec		20-Nov	27-Nov	04-Dec	11-Dec	18-Dec	25-Dec	
Alabama	29,704	29,432	29,952	29,390	99	20,257	20,715	20,604	22,434	21,088	21,939	100
ARKANSAS	30,902	30,746	30,766	31,169	100	22,691	20,983	24,740	24,158	26,068	24,835	97
Delaware	3,848 *	3,854	3,887	4,033	109	4,295	5,125	5,267	5,675 *	5,570	5,458	129
Florida	1,339	1,359	1,324 *	1,328	98	1,492	1,354	1,639	1,438	1,501	1,418	83
Georgia	33,096	33,550	33,998	33,818	102	25,011	25,992	26,637	25,214	26,668	26,858	103
Kentucky	7,036	7,107	7,023 *	6,454	94	5,562	5,858	5,869	6,091	6,135 *	5,826	98
Louisiana	3,984	3,984	3,984	3,984	115	3,752	4,208	3,821	4,074	3,633 *	3,722	100
Maryland	8,596	8,777	8,723	8,767	100	6,049	5,417	4,499	4,821 *	5,265	5,121	79
Mississippi	19,249	19,018	19,553	19,033	101	15,402	16,631	16,887	17,334	17,507	16,738	102
N. Carolina	17,056 *	17,587	18,188 *	18,262	103	14,743	14,317	14,867	14,584	14,228 *	14,257	106
Oklahoma	6,503	6,389	5,984	6,489	104	4,250	4,956	4,423	5,564	5,288	4,869	126
Pennsylvania	3,803	4,234 *	4,078 *	4,038	105	2,934	2,945	2,912	2,967 *	2,831 *	2,647	100
S. Carolina	4,555	4,409	4,485	4,561	126	4,112	3,664	4,267	3,817	4,423	4,504	115
Texas	14,980	15,001	14,566	15,070	103	12,114	12,427	12,074	12,390	12,136	12,544	106
Virginia	6,398	6,369	6,408	6,249	101	4,759	4,913	5,561	5,178	5,249	5,114	104
CA,MO,TN,WV	16,697	18,092	18,047 *	17,362	104	15,624	16,578	17,206	16,257	15,622	14,760	97
Total 2004	207,746 *	209,908 *	210,966 *	210,007		163,047	166,083	171,273	171,996 *	173,212 *	170,610	
Total 2003	204,662	207,313	205,549	205,908		156,626	164,561	167,566	166,640	170,414	168,199	
%Prev. Year	102	101	103	102		104	101	102	103	102	101	
Approximate Marketing Date 2005.....						08-Jan	15-Jan	22-Jan	29-Jan	05-Feb	12-Feb	

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 210 million eggs during the week ending December 25, 2004. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 171 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 25, 2004. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through December 25, 2004 were 8.21 billion, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.